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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/918,117
Applicants: Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO and Yasushi
WATANABE
For: HOLLOW RACK SHAFT
Confirmation No.: 2600
Customer No.: 24731
Docket No.: 18733/00060
Filed: July 30, 2001
Group Art Unit: 3682
Examiner: Bradley J. Van Pelt

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
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December 9, 2004

Date of Deposit

Douglas A. Sorensen

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative

Signature

December 9, 2004

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2004, which provides for a response period ending January 1, 2005.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.